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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, November 20, 1998

JOINT PETITION OF

BELL ATLANTIC CORPORATION

CASE NO. PUA980031

and

GTE CORPORATION

For approval of agreement
and plan of merger

ORDER EXTENDING DEADLINES

The Commission's order of October 23, 1998, prescribed a deadline of November 18, 1998, for Bell Atlantic Corporation ("Bell Atlantic") and GTE Corporation ("GTE") (collectively "the Petitioners") to publish notice concerning their request for the Commission to approve their agreement and plan of merger whereby GTE would become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bell Atlantic. By letter dated November 19, 1998, counsel for Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc., ("BA-VA") advised the Commission that neither of the Petitioners had accomplished publication of the notice. The letter requested that the deadline for publication of notice be moved to December 4, 1998, and the deadline for comments or requests for hearing be moved to December 31, 1998.

The Commission agrees that an extension is necessary in order that public notice be accomplished. We are concerned that

the Petitioners' failure to adhere to Ordering Paragraph (8) of our previous order might prejudice the Commission and persons who might wish to participate by effectively shortening the 180-day period for consideration. At least 16 days have been lost before public notice can be accomplished. The Commission may, because of the time delay attributable to the Petitioners' inattention, make further adjustment to the procedural schedule, as it appears necessary to permit appropriate review of the petition and meaningful participation by interested parties and take such action as may be necessary to protect the public interest. Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The date of November 18, 1998, appearing in Ordering paragraph (8) of our order of October 23, 1998, is hereby extended to December 4, 1998.

(2) The date of December 15, 1998, appearing in the prescribed public notice at page 4 of our order of October 23, 1998, together with the date December 15, 1998, appearing in Ordering Paragraphs (3) and (4) is hereby extended to January 7, 1999.

(3) The date of December 2, 1998, appearing in Ordering Paragraph (10) of our order of October 23, 1998, is hereby extended to December 22, 1998.

(4) The names and addresses of counsel for Petitioners as shown in Ordering Paragraph (5) and in the prescribed notice portion of Ordering Paragraph (8) of our order of October 23, 1998, shall be changed to reflect that Richard D. Gary, Esquire, Hunton & Williams, Riverfront Plaza, East Tower, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219-4074 is substituted in lieu of Stephen H. Watts, II, Esquire, McGuire, Woods Battle & Boothe, One James Center, 901 East Cary Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, and the address of Warner F. Brundage, Jr., Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary, Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. shall be altered to reflect the 11th Floor rather than the 24th Floor of 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

(5) The date for the report of the Commission Staff prescribed in Ordering Paragraph (6) of the order of October 23, 1998, is changed from January 21, 1999, to February 10, 1999.

(6) Any responses to the Staff report shall be filed on or before February 22, 1999.

(7) In all other respects, our order of October 23, 1998, remains unaltered.